

ONGOING LAND APPLICATION

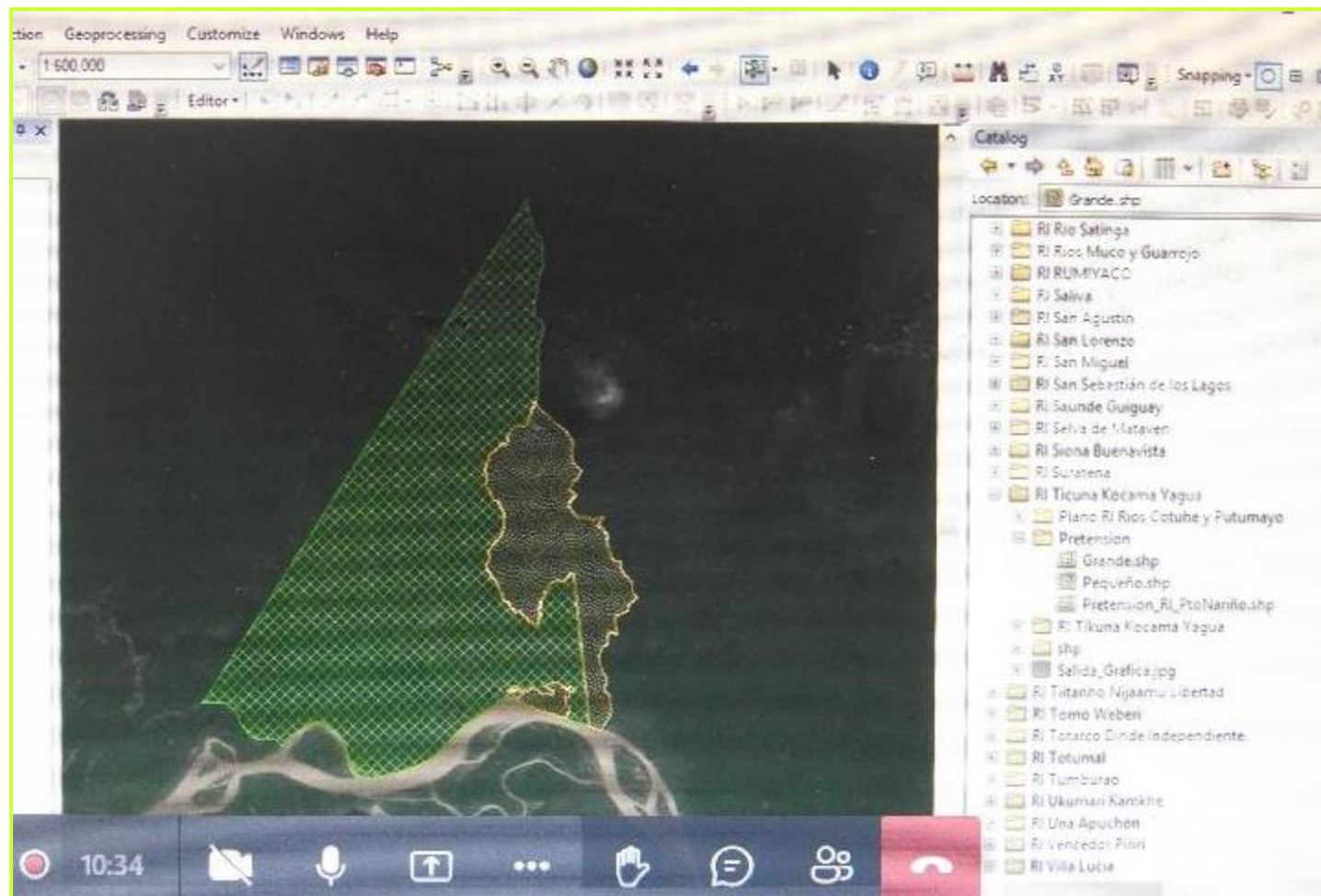
On March 3rd, there was another meeting with Windows Teams with 6 representatives of the ANT and 8 of the TICOYA indigenous reserve. Despite the many disruptions in the connection, Geronimo Laureano (Tikuna) was perfectly capable to quote the pretty much complete list of about 20 non-indigenous occupants (and the ownership status of the land they live on) who are currently living in the area which on the map in Newsletter 50 is striped green and labeled "Application enlargement TICOYA reserve" around the communities of Valencia, Puerto Esperanza, Veinte de Julio, Patrullero and Ticoya. These occupants are mostly interested in the sale of this land, which by the way they never bought from anyone but just took in possession at some point. In due time, these occupants will receive an offer from the ANT. Then there is also the matter of the exact borders of the current "urban centre" of the municipality of Puerto Nariño. The land around these borders and the land bought from the occupants together represent the land with which the TICOYA reserve will be enlarged.

This process still has many steps to go and the Small World Foundation will continue playing a crucial role in it to achieve success.

Actual positive news was also mentioned during the Teams meeting about the ancestral lands of San Martin de Amacayacu and Palmeras. According to the ANT there are no more steps or information required, all is complete and we only still need to wait for the Resolution describing this specific area with which the TICOYA reserve will be enlarged. This will happen as soon as possible and does not have to wait for or depend on the completion of the steps required for the recognition of the other area around the five communities.

**** GREAT NEWS!! ****





LIFE IN THE AMAZON AFTER COVID

In March 2020, Covid reached the Colombian Amazon (Newsletter 91) and with this the most important source of income disappeared, which is tourism. Leticia airport was closed for 8 months and many products did not reach this region. Prices of many products started going up. At the end of 2020, there seemed to be light on the horizon and the first travelers ventured to the rainforest again. Leticia airport closed again for 5 months at the end of January 2021 as a result of the Brazilian Covid variant. There was a speedy vaccination campaign to assure that the inhabitants of the Amazon would be a human buffer against this variant. Even the most remote communities were visited by the vaccination teams. Only until November 2021 did tourism return more definitely and in February 2022, it was pre-Covid busy again in the Colombian Amazon. In the meantime, all product prices have gone up with at least 30-50%. The government has always subsidized fuel in this region, because otherwise no one would be able to afford it due to the enormous distances the fuel needs to travel via rivers to get here. But also the cost of gas (for

cooking only) has increased with 50% since 2020. These increases were already a fact long before Russia invaded the Ukraine. Inflation is mostly blamed: The value of the Colombian peso has decreased significantly. At the end of 2019, the euro was worth 3.400 Colombian pesos and at the end of 2021 more than 4.800! At the moment, situations seems to stabilize and prices seem to be maintained. That is a relief of course for everyone, but remains a challenge for families with a basic income (roughly €250/month) or less. There are many such families in the Amazon!

SWF PRESENTATION IN NETHERLANDS

With a lot of enthusiasm, the Small World Foundation would like to invite you again on Saturday June 11 at 4pm at Ghil 12 in Baarle-Nassau for a live presentation about our progress in San Martin de Amacayacu. Please put this on your calendar and if you can come, we appreciate your inscription before June 1st with an email or whatsapp to Tonny van Gils (tonnyvangilspals@hotmail.com) (+31615465398)

Wilt u samen met de Small World Foundation steun bieden aan de mensen van de indianengemeenschap San Martin de Amacayacu en op de hoogte blijven van de lokale ontwikkelingen in deze verre uithoek van Colombia?

Maak dan jaarlijks €20 (of meer..!) over op:

Rabobank IBAN: NL28RABO0132726203

t.n.v. Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION te Baarle-Nassau,

o.v.v. 'nieuwsbrief' en Uw naam (BIC: RABONL2U)

Belangrijk: de stichting is aangemerkt als ANBI waardoor vaste jaarlijkse bijdragen belasting aftrekbaar kunnen zijn! Informeer eens bij je belastingadviseur!

Vergeet niet zo spoedig mogelijk ook uw e-mailadres door te geven: smallworldfoundation@outlook.com
Nogmaals, de bijdragen zullen uitsluitend besteed worden aan de ontwikkeling en uitvoering van de lokale initiatieven, onder begeleiding van de Small World Foundation. De uitgaven zullen zo veel mogelijk vermeld worden in de nieuwsbrieven. Voor alternatieve (vormen van) bijdragen, graag informeren bij bovenstaand adres.

U kunt zich te allen tijde opgeven voor de nieuwsbrief. Wanneer u graag één of meerdere edities van deze nieuwsbrief (nogmaals) wilt ontvangen via email, neem dan ook contact op of kijk op de website: www.smallworldfoundation.org.